

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Yang, D., *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/672,142

Filed: September 26, 2003

For: ETHYLENEDICYSSTEINE (EC)-DRUG
CONJUGATES, COMPOSITIONS AND
METHODS FOR TISSUE SPECIFIC
DISEASE IMAGING

Group Art Unit: 1618

Examiner: Dameron L. Jones

Atty. Dkt. No.: UTSC:664USC2

CERTIFICATE OF ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

DATE OF FILING December 12, 2006

COMMENTS IN RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE
DATED NOVEMBER 21, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

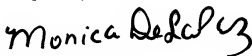
This paper is being submitted in response to the Notice of Allowance mailed on November 21, 2006. The three month date for responding is February 21, 2007.

Applicants note that each of the pending claims recites a “radionuclide-labeled bis-aminoethanethiol (BAT) dicarboxylic acid-targeting ligand conjugate.” This phrase is intended to cover conjugates that comprise a targeting ligand conjugated to a BAT having a dicarboxylic acid structure. In preferred (but not all) embodiments, the targeting ligand will be conjugated directly to one or both of the carboxylic acid groups. When the targeting ligand is conjugated to one or both of the carboxylic acid groups of the BAT, such group will cease to be a “carboxylic

acid” *per se* – it will be, for example, an ester or amide, *etc.*, depending on the nature of the conjugation reaction. Nevertheless, it is intended that the claim language “bis-aminoethanethiol (BAT) dicarboxylic acid-targeting ligand” covers conjugates wherein the targeting ligand is conjugated to one or both carboxyl groups of the BAT.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-5639 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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